



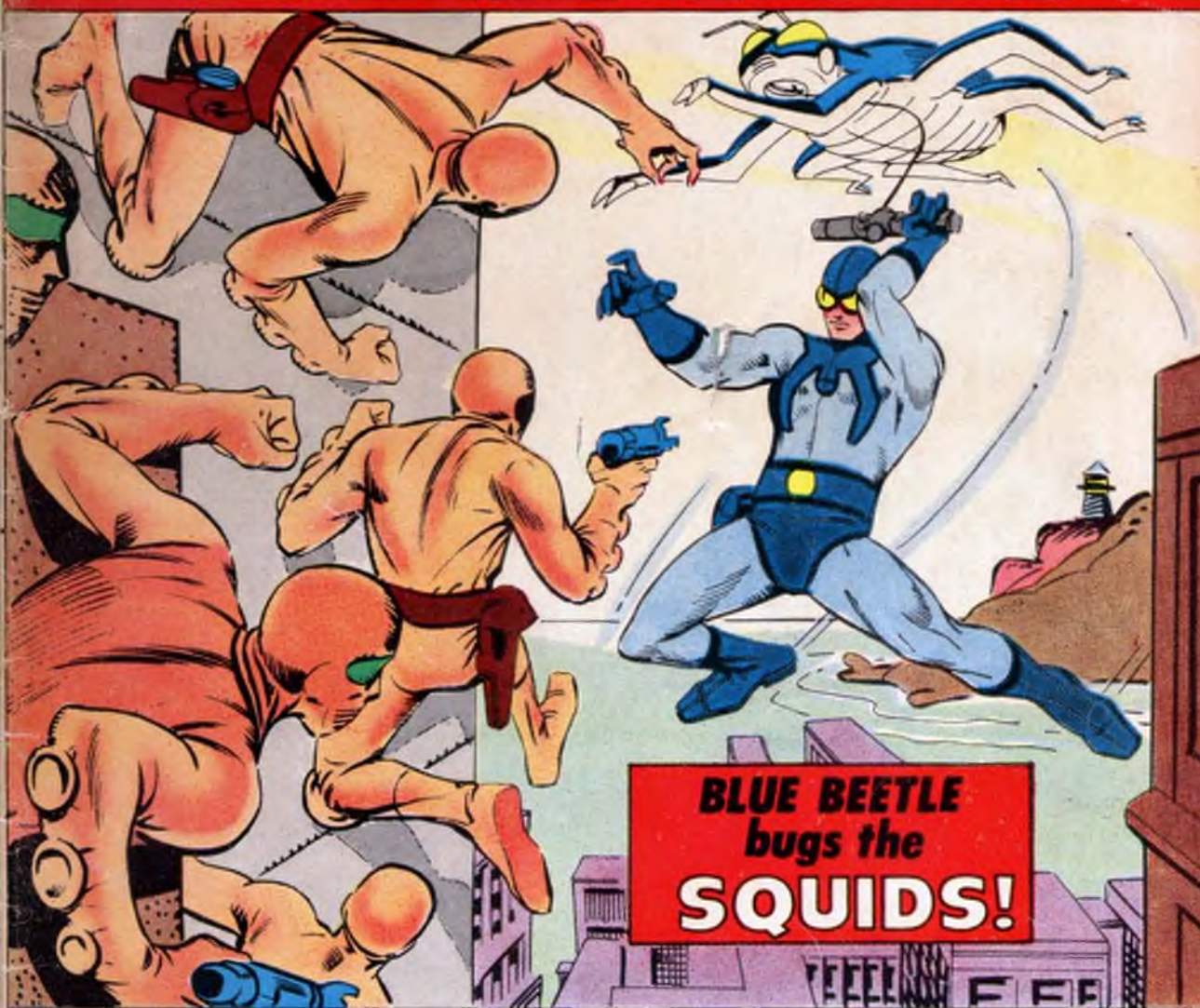
BLUE BEETLE

12¢  
JUNE



# BLUE BEETLE

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY



**BLUE BEETLE**  
*bugs the*  
**SQUIDS!**

# WHO

is the

# QUESTION





# the BLUE BEETLE

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PENCILED BY: STEVE DITKO

INKED BY: STEVE DITKO

LETTERED BY: A. MACHINE

COME WITH US AS THE ALL-NEW BLUE BEETLE...

# BUGS THE SQUIDS



B-724

BLUE BEETLE Vol. 1, No. 1, June, 1967, published bimonthly by Charlton Comics Group at Charlton Building, Derby, Conn. 06418. Application for Second Class mailing privileges will be applied for at Derby, Conn. 06418.



THE GATHERING DARKNESS OF LATE EVENING FALLS UPON THE HUB CITY WATERFRONT AS...



WE SHOULD ALMOST BE THERE

THE BOYS KNOW THE SIGNAL. I'LL SCOUT AHEAD TO MAKE SURE NO ONE'S AROUND!



ALL CLEAR! HUSTLE IT UP BUT KEEP QUIET! GET YOUR AQUA-LUNGS OFF AND START CLIMBING!



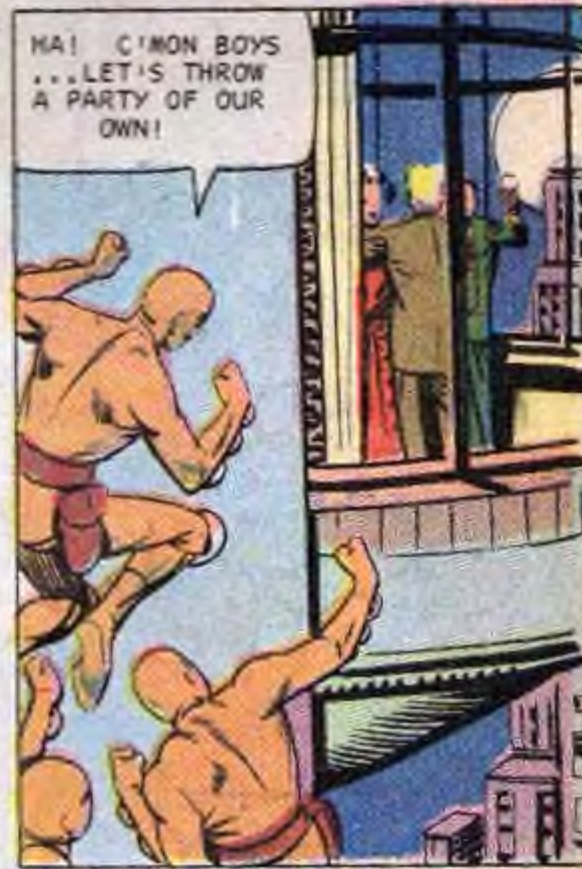
CAREFUL, IT'S A LONG DROP! REMEMBER KEEPING YOUR FIST TIGHT MAKES THE SUCTION CUPS HOLD FAST!



THE WEIRD BAND MAKES ITS WAY SILENTLY UP THE SHEER WALL OF THE FASHIONABLE WATERFRONT APARTMENT BUILDING...



HA! GIMON BOYS...LET'S THROW A PARTY OF OUR OWN!



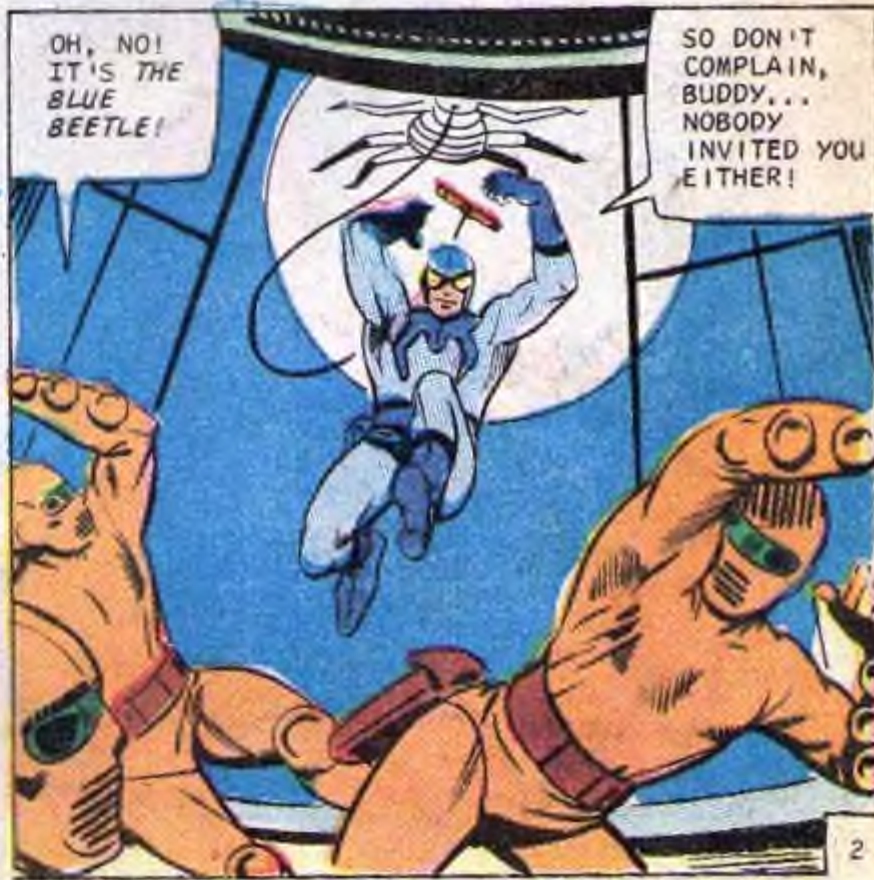
EEK! IT'S THAT HORRID SQUID GANG!!

ALL RIGHT, FOLKS, IT'S SHOW TIME! START PEELING OFF THE JEWELRY AND EMPTYING YOUR WALLETS!



OH, NO! IT'S THE BLUE BEETLE!

SO DON'T COMPLAIN, BUDDY... NOBODY INVITED YOU EITHER!





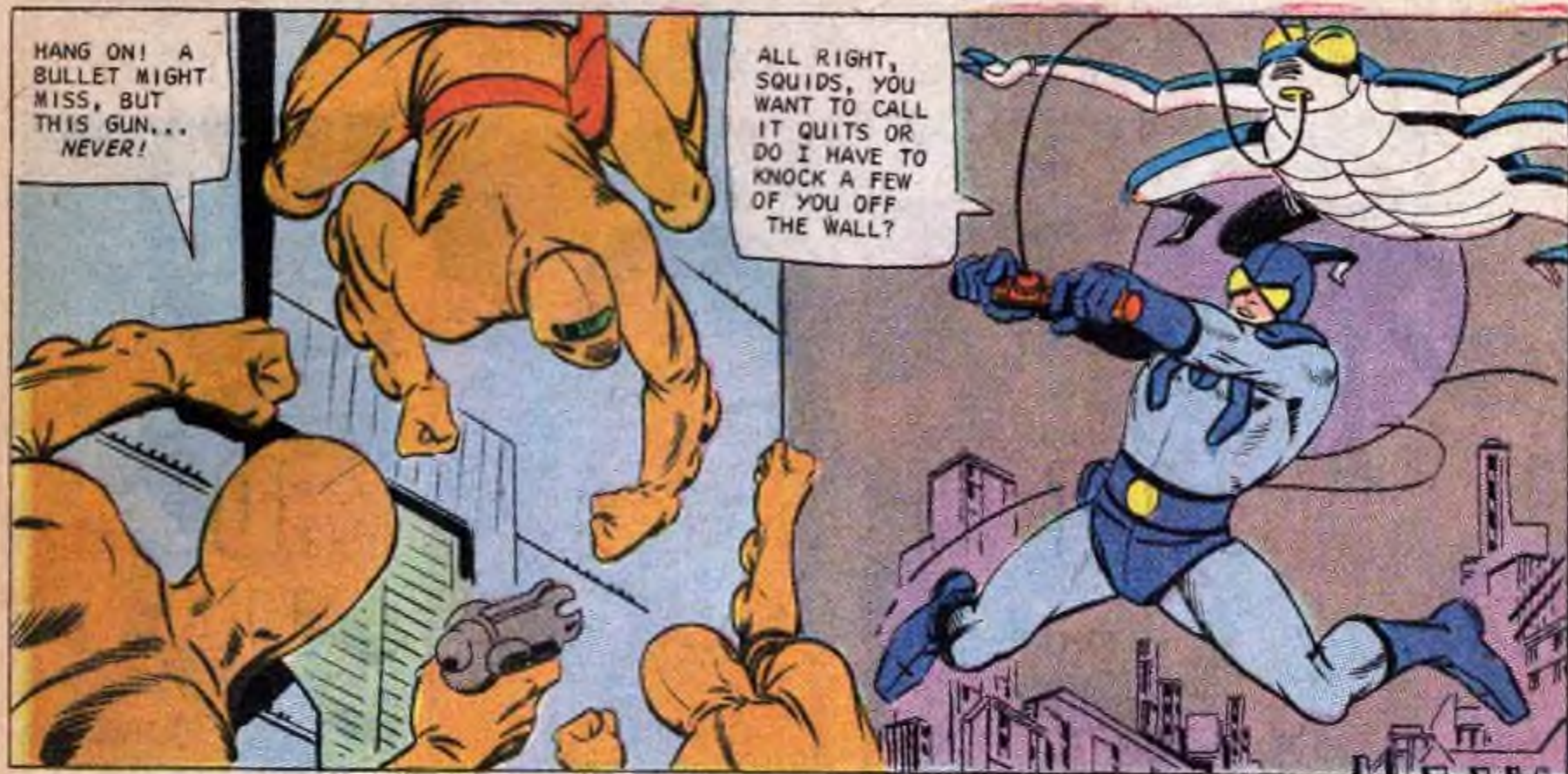






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HANG ON! A BULLET MIGHT MISS, BUT THIS GUN... NEVER!

ALL RIGHT, SQUIDS, YOU WANT TO CALL IT QUITS OR DO I HAVE TO KNOCK A FEW OF YOU OFF THE WALL?



YOU'LL HAVE TO FIND US FIRST!

COUGH COUGH  
FOG GUN...  
ALMOST COUGH  
LET GO...



...CAN'T SEE  
... BETTER  
STOP THE BUG  
AND PULL MY-  
SELF UP BE-  
FORE WE  
SMASH INTO  
THE BUILDING!



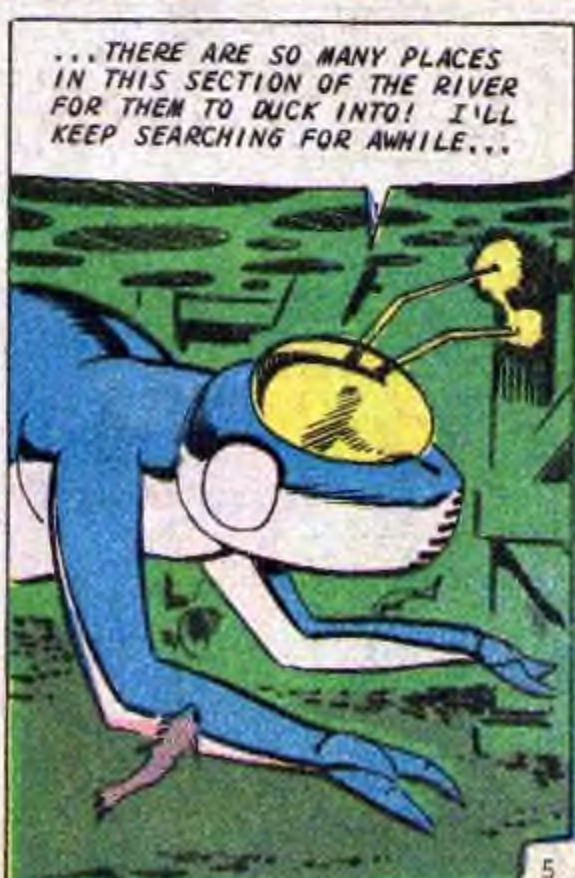
THAT BIT BOUGHT  
THEM ENOUGH TIME.  
THE SQUIDS ARE  
TAKING TO THE  
WATER, OKAY,  
BUG, DOWN WE  
GO...



...HOPE THE BUG'S  
ANTENNA CAN PICK  
THEM UP...BEFORE  
THEY SCATTER!



NOTHING! IF  
I COULD JUST  
FIND ONE HE'D  
LEAD ME TO  
THEIR HIDE-OUT,  
BUT...



...THERE ARE SO MANY PLACES  
IN THIS SECTION OF THE RIVER  
FOR THEM TO DUCK INTO! I'LL  
KEEP SEARCHING FOR AWHILE...



BUT THE BLUE BEETLE SEARCHES IN VAIN, FOR NOT TOO FAR AWAY...

WE CAME BACK EMPTY HANDED...

TRUE...BUT EVEN THIS FAILURE SERVED A PURPOSE! OUR NEXT JOB WILL MORE THAN MAKE UP FOR IT!



I'VE GOT A CAPER LINED UP THAT'S A SURE THING...SO DON'T SWEAT IT!



MIGHT AS WELL CALL IT A NIGHT... THEY GOT CLEAN AWAY!



NEXT DAY IN THE LAB OF TED KORD, ALIAS THE BLUE BEETLE...

DO US BOTH A FAVOR AND TELL US WHAT HAPPENED TO DAN GARRET ON PAGO ISLAND... BEFORE I FIND OUT FOR MYSELF...AND MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, KORD, I WILL FIND OUT!

SORRY, FISHER... THERE'S NOTHING TO TELL!



HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY, KORD...BUT YOU'LL BE SEEING A LOT OF ME 'TILL THIS MYSTERY IS CLEARED UP ONCE AND FOR ALL.

FISHER'S A GOOD COP... BUT HIS DIGGING IS KEEPING ME ON THE SPOT AND I CAN'T STOP HIM!



TED, YOU CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS... CONTINUALLY BEING SUSPECTED OF HAVING SOMETHING TO DO WITH DAN GARRET'S DISAPPEARANCE!

PLEASE, TRACEY, NOT YOU, TOO!



OH, TED, I LOVE YOU! NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED, I STUCK BY YOU! BUT...BUT CLEAR THIS MESS UP... BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

IF SHE ONLY KNEW WHAT SHE'S ASKING ME TO DO!

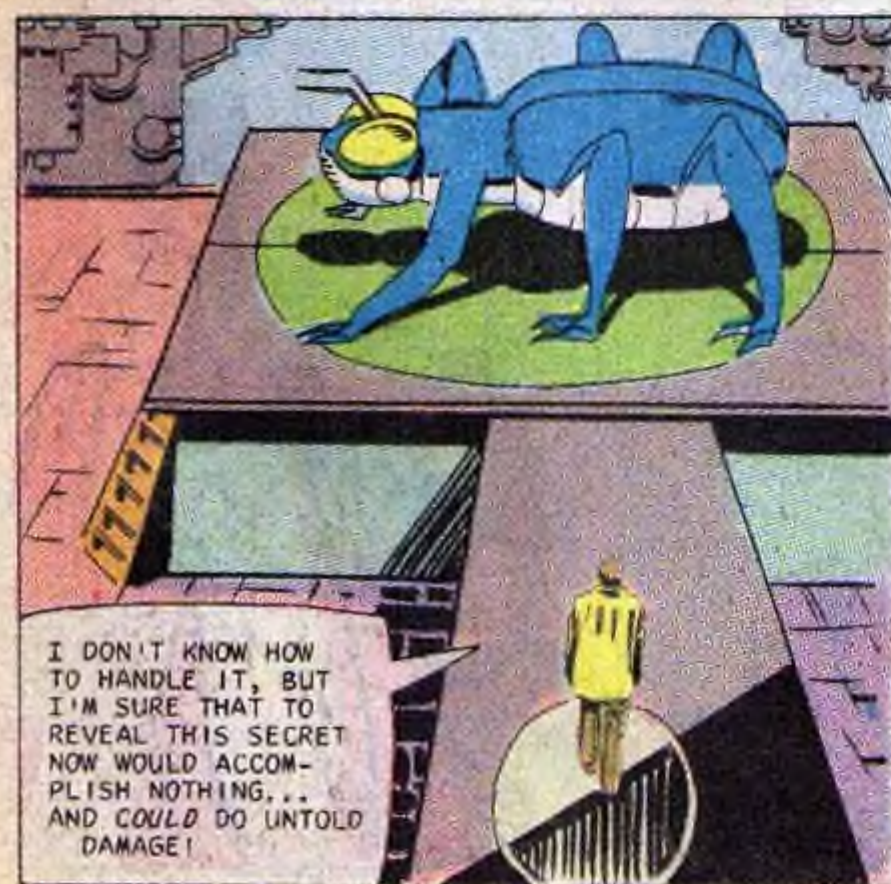
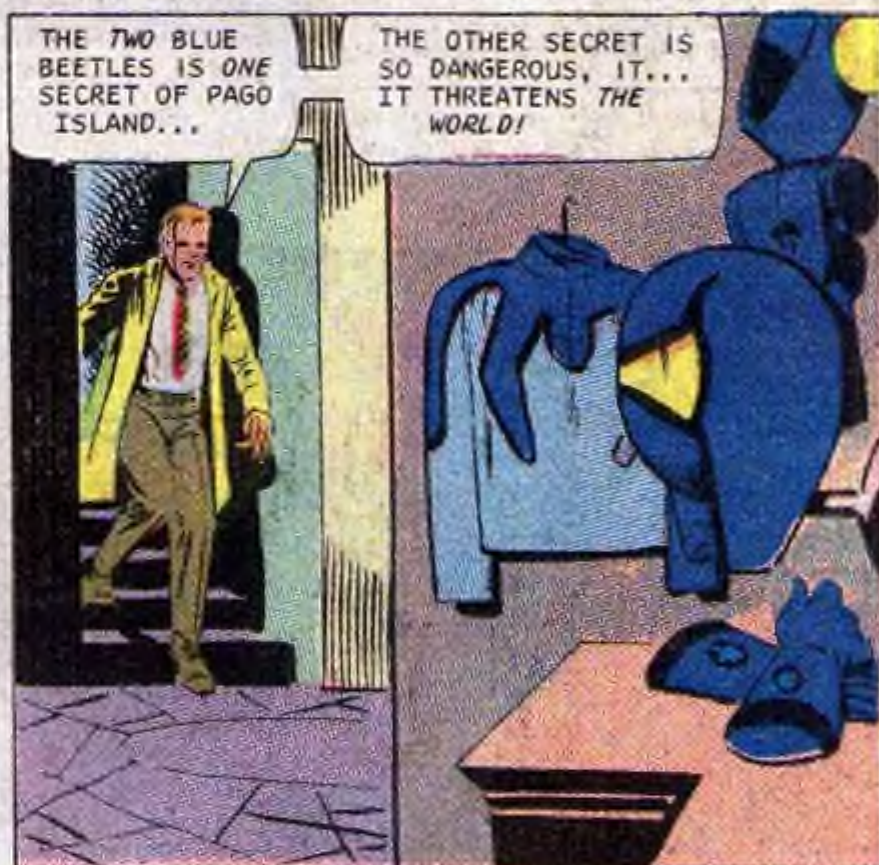
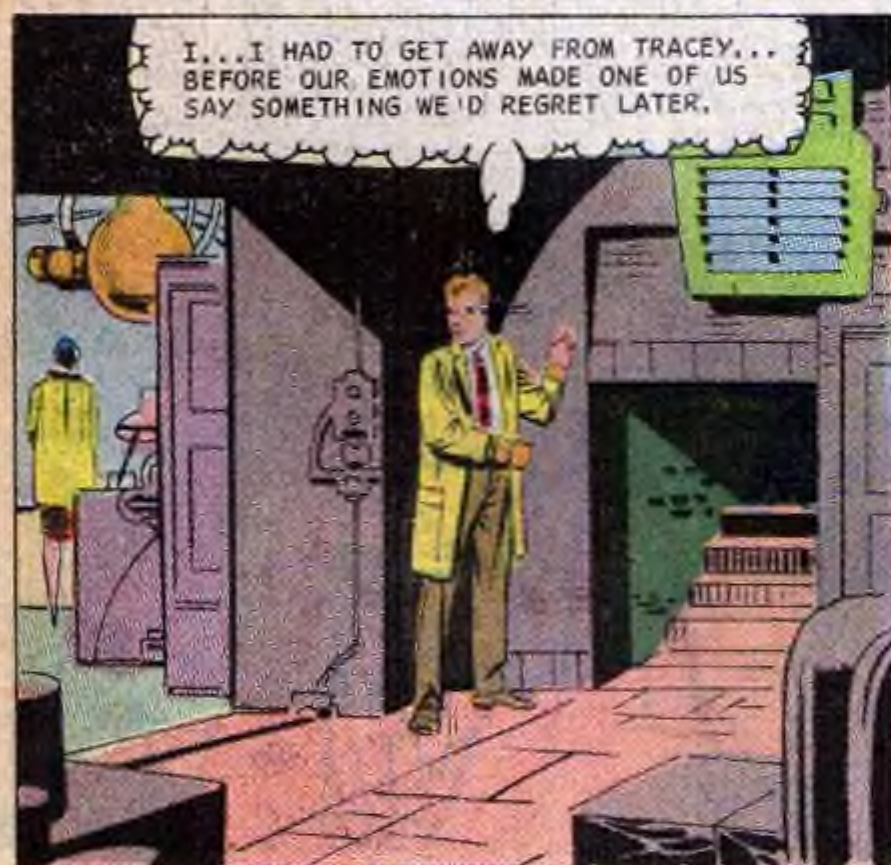


I...I'M SORRY, TRACEY! YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO TRUST ME!

OH, TED, IF YOU DON'T PUT A STOP TO IT BY TELLING WHAT YOU KNOW, THESE SUSPICIONS WILL KEEP GROWING, UNTIL...









SOON AFTER, AT A WOMAN'S CLUB LUNCHEON...

I HAVE WONDERFUL NEWS, LADIES! TODD VAN III HAS GRACIOUSLY OFFERED THE USE OF HIS YACHT FOR A COSTUME BALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING FUNDS FOR OUR FAVORITE CHARITY.



WONDERFUL! TODD VAN KNOWS THE RICHEST PEOPLE!



I WOULDN'T MISS IT! A GOOD TIME FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

THAT TODD! HE REALLY KNOWS HOW TO LIVE IT UP!

WELL, SQUIDS, IS THAT CHARITY JOB MADE TO ORDER FOR US OR NOT?

WE CAN'T MISS, BOSS!



THE NIGHT OF THE CHARITY COSTUME BALL ARRIVES, AND...

LET'S GET ABOARD!

WE DON'T WANT TO LEAVE ANY MONEY BEHIND, DO WE? HA, HA, HA!

WE'RE ABOUT TO SHOVE OFF!



TODD, YOU'RE A GODSEND! YOU'LL COLLECT MORE FOR US TONIGHT THAN WE COULD IN A YEAR!

I LIKE TO DO WHAT I CAN ...FOR THE NEEDY!

YOU'RE SO HARBORABLE, TODD!



YES...YOU COULD SAY THAT! NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

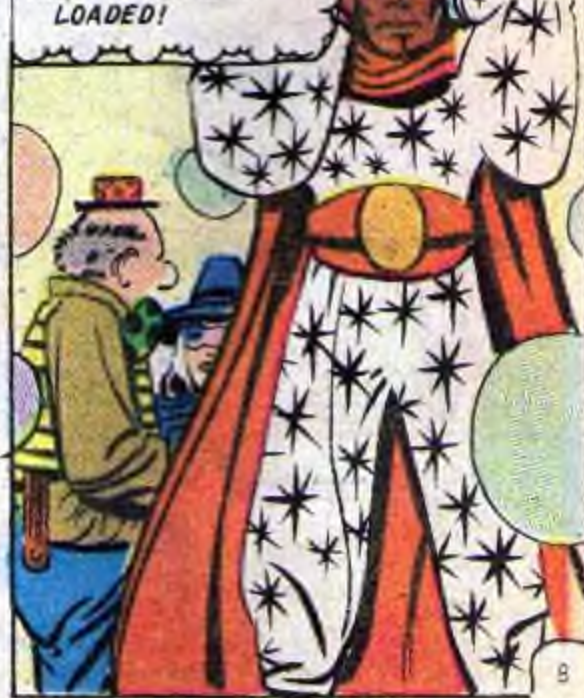
I HAVE TO RAISE SOME MONEY FOR MY FAVORITE CHARITY...ME! AND TO THINK THAT...



...MY FATHER SAID I COULD NEVER MAKE A DIME ON MY OWN! AND HERE I AM, HEAD OF THE SQUIDS...MY OWN LITTLE BUSINESS...WITH SMALL RISKS AND NO TAXES!



WHO WOULD SUSPECT TODD VAN III, OF LEADING A BAND OF ROBBERS. NO ONE KNOWS I'VE BLOWN THE FORTUNE MY FATHER LEFT ME. THEY THINK I'M LOADED!





A FEW MORE JOBS LIKE THIS ONE TONIGHT AND I'LL BE RICHER THAN MY FATHER EVER WAS... WITHOUT HAVING TO WORK!



NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW! NOTHING!



LOOKS SAFE TO SURFACE!

I'M POSITIVE THE SQUIDS WILL TAKE A SHOT AT THE CHARITY TAKE ON TODD'S YACHT!



I WAS JUST LUCKY SPOTTING THEM THE LAST TIME...



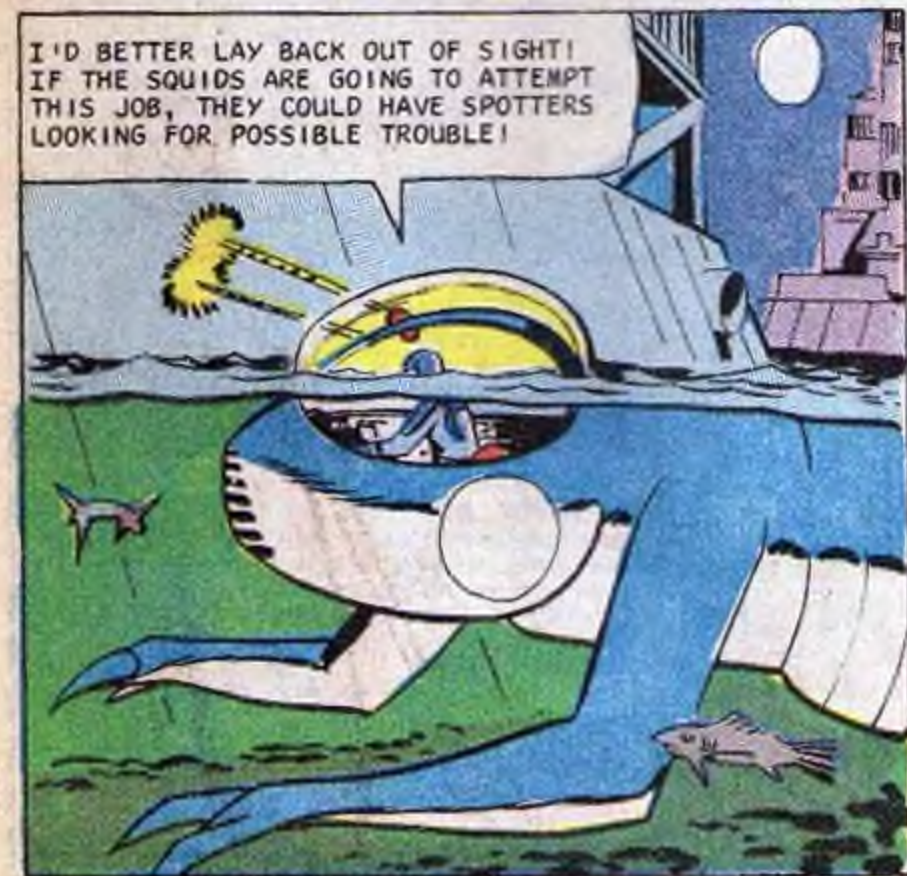
...BUT THIS JOB IS LIKE A RIPE PLUM BEGGING TO BE PICKED! IT'S A NATURAL FOR THEM! IT'S JUST A MATTER OF WHEN!



THIS TIME I'LL BE READY FOR THEM.



I'D BETTER LAY BACK OUT OF SIGHT! IF THE SQUIDS ARE GOING TO ATTEMPT THIS JOB, THEY COULD HAVE SPOTTERS LOOKING FOR POSSIBLE TROUBLE!



I'LL LOCK ONE ANTENNA ON THE YACHT AND THE OTHER PROBING FOR SIGNS OF THE SQUIDS UNDERWATER!



CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT PAGE



THEY WERE ALL THERE! THE THREE OF THEM! THE THREE OF THEM! THE THREE OF THEM!

A man in a red suit and a woman in a green dress are standing in a room. The man is looking at the woman, and she is looking at him. They are both smiling.

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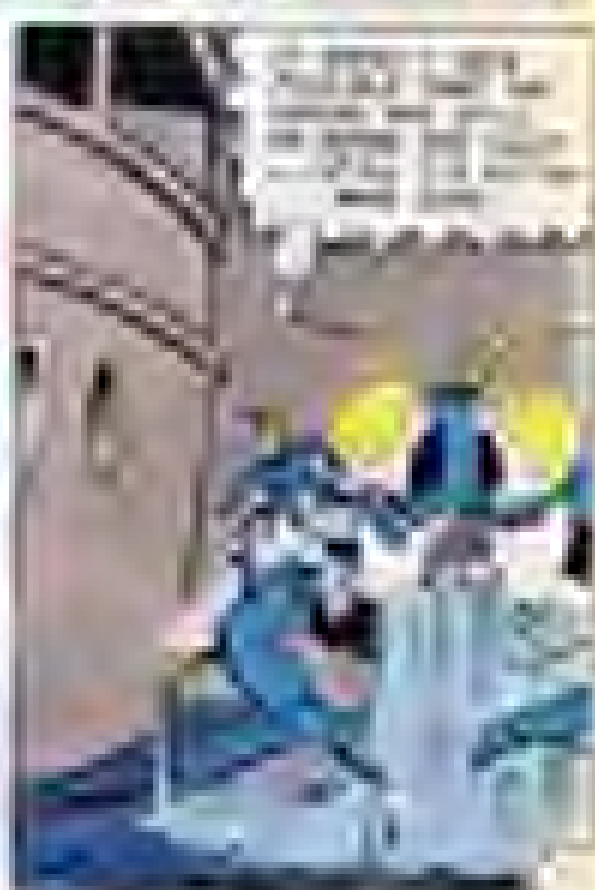
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The following are excerpts from letters addressed to the Captain's Column after our revised and reprinted album BLUE BEETLE had appeared as a companion feature in CAPTAIN ATOM.

"As for the New Beetle, I couldn't think of a better car than this in a million years."

"There's nothing out [on] a lower level. Marvel Comics is solidifying itself as well. And the new Steve Austin is spectacular!"

"The new Blue Beetle is GREAT! I loved everything about him and I love Steve Ditko's artwork the most!"

"This new *Five Senses* is a great character with a beautiful costume. Congratulations to Steve Diller and Gary Friedrich. His team should have been on the original *Five Senses*."

"In case 33 of CAPTAIN A'HORN, the Blue Beetle was fantastic. Steve Ditko's art would have surpassed Jack Kirby's art for the FANTASTIC FOUR."

<sup>1</sup> "I think this name *Alnus incana* is better, usual, and good." —

"I want to learn more about Blue Beetle's amazing super-powers!" CAPTAIN NICHOLAS "HE was lost. Especially the new Blue Beetle, he's terrible. Will you please give him the suit and keep him away from me."

"The new Blue Beetle is great, even better than Captain Atom." It was primarily because of these comments and many, many more like them that we decided to have a go at it and give the Blue Beetle his own story.

We are excited and hopeful about the Blue Bards. Excited because of the interest he has aroused and hopeful that we can maintain that interest. From this point on, the fate of Blue Bards is in your hands! Your letters will help determine the future of Blue Bards!

As many of you may know, Dave Friedrich has moved over to Marvel to write for Star Line! Our loss is their gain! He leaves with our regrets of having lost a good writer but takes with him our best wishes wishes for a very successful career.











THE LATEST IN THE NEW  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
LINE OF THE FASHION  
DESIGNER PARTY IS



THE FIRST OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
IS



THE SECOND OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
IS

THE THIRD OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
IS



THE FOURTH OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
IS

THE FIFTH OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
IS



THE SIXTH OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
IS

THE SEVENTH OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
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THE EIGHTH OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
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IS



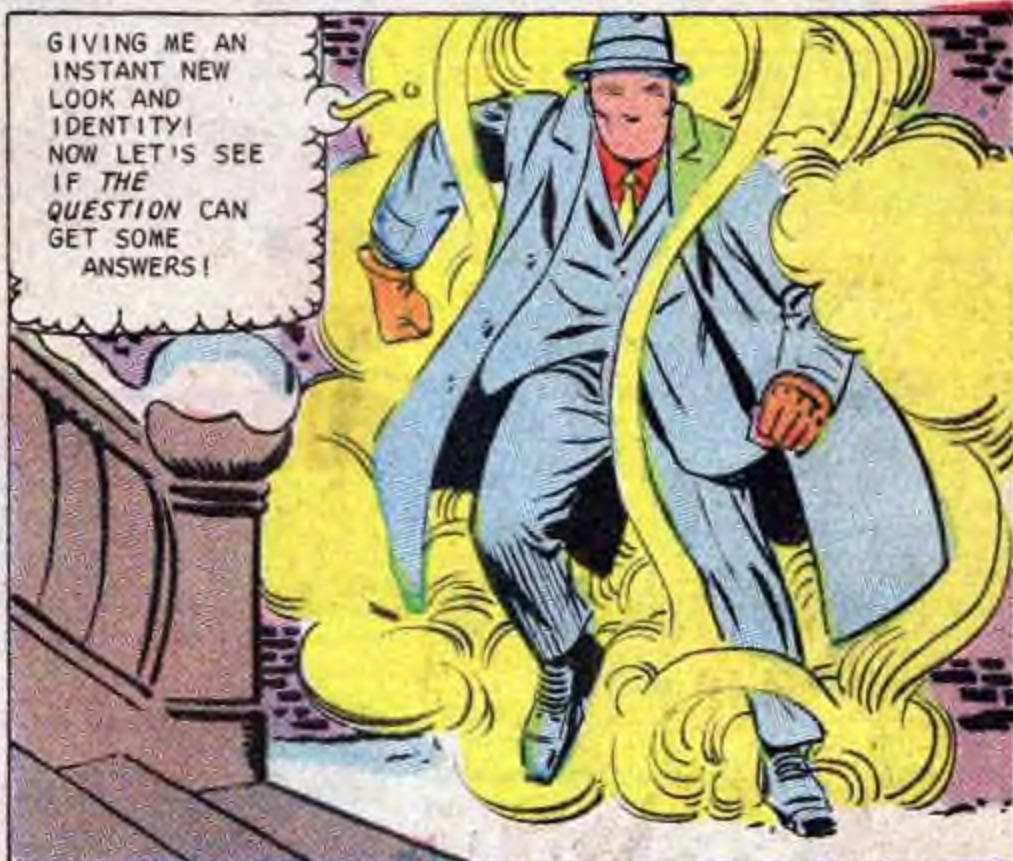
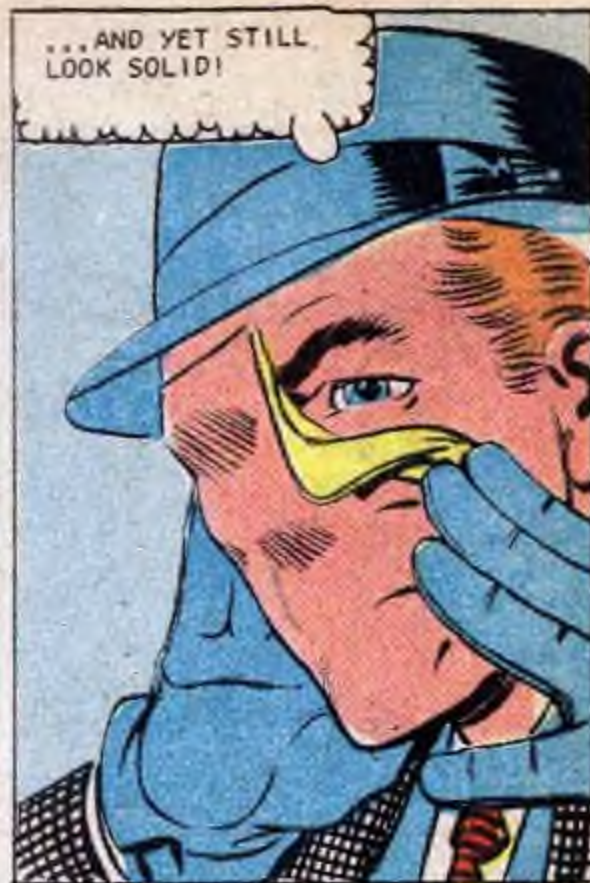
THE NINTH OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
IS



THE TENTH OF THE  
NEW LINE OF  
CLOTHING & ACCESSORY  
IS











GET HIM! BUT NO GUNS... WE DON'T WANT THE COPS BUSTIN' IN HERE!

WHERE'S DICER? THE QUESTION WANTS THE ANSWERS!

NOBODY TALKS!



YOU PUNKS CAN MAKE IT AS HARD ON YOURSELVES AS YOU WANT!

GRAB HIM, MOE!



ANYONE CAN SPEAK UP WHEN THEY'RE READY!



BINGO! YOU TAGGED HIM!

NOW, YOU GUYS... CLOBBER HIM!



I SAVED YOU FOR LAST! NOW TALK!

YOU'LL NEVER GET ME TO TELL YOU ANYTHING... NEVER!



